

preferably constructed of a resilient plastic material, the balls 32 may simply be press fit into the C clips 20.

With reference now particularly to FIGS. 3 and 4, the pivotal connection provided between the C clips 20 and the frame 16 by the ball 32 and socket 34 connection allows the eye shield assembly 10 to be moved between an operational position, illustrated in solid line in FIG. 3 and in FIG. 4, and a storage position, illustrated in phantom line in FIG. 3. In its storage position, the lens nests closely adjacent the bottom of the brim 14 thus allowing an unobstructed line of vision for the person wearing the hat 12. Conversely, with the eye shield assembly 10 in its operational position, the frame 16 together with its attached lens 18 depends generally perpendicularly downwardly from the bottom of the brim 14 and thus in series with the line of vision for the person wearing the hat 12.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the frame 16 and lens 18 are generally concave thus matching the concave shape of the brim 14. Thus, when the lens 18 is in its storage position, the contour of the lens 18 and frame 16 generally matches the concavity of the brim 14 thus allowing the lens 18 to generally flatly abut against the bottom of the brim. This further enhances the generally unobstructed line of vision for the person wearing the hat.

The eye shield assembly 10 may also be rapidly and easily moved from one hat to another.

From the foregoing, it can be seen that the present invention provides a simple, inexpensive and yet totally effective eye shield assembly for use with a hat having a brim. Having described my invention, however, many modifications thereto will become apparent to those skilled in the art to which it pertains without deviation from the spirit of the invention as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. For use in conjunction with a hat having a brim, an eye shield assembly comprising:

a frame,

a lens mounted to the frame,

means for pivotally mounting said frame to the hat between a storage position and an operational position,

wherein in said storage position said lens nests closely adjacent to the brim and wherein in said operational position said lens depends downwardly from the brim, wherein said pivotal mounting means comprises a pair of clips, each clip having ends, one clip being attached at said first end to one side of the brim, and the other clip being attached at said first end to the other side of the brim, said second ends of said clips each having a spherical socket so that said sockets face each other, a pair of posts secured to said frame so that one post is adjacent one end of said frame and the other post is adjacent the other end of said frame, each post having a spherical ball such that said spherical balls face away from each other and are dimensioned to be received in the socket in said clip adjacent said post.

2. The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said clips are made of plastic.

3. The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said lens is tinted.

4. The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said lens includes ultraviolet blockers.

5. The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said lens is generally concave in shape.

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